



# **The Hoosier Schoolmaster: A Story of Backwoods Life in Indiana (Illustrated Edition)**

*Edward Eggleston*

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A novel by the American author, historian and Methodist Minister whose tales (especially the Hoosier series) were very popular in their time.

## **The Hoosier Schoolmaster: A Story of Backwoods Life in Indiana (Illustrated Edition) Details**

Date : Published March 8th 2007 by Dodo Press (first published 1871)

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Author : Edward Eggleston

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# **From Reader Review The Hoosier Schoolmaster: A Story of Backwoods Life in Indiana (Illustrated Edition) for online ebook**

## **Carolyn says**

This was a very sweet, humorous, and sentimental quick read. It was written, I believe, in 1871. Eggleston used to be one of Indiana's claims to fame. He was a popular author known throughout the nation. I especially recommend this book to all my Hoosier friends, of course!

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## **Lisa of Hopewell says**

This just keeps getting better! His observations on pastors, churches and religion are as accurate today as they were back in his day!

Sometimes we forget that books become classics for a reason--they are very readable and enjoyable. This one is fun.

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## **Sharon Zink says**

This book is about a backwoods school teacher in a rural school in Indiana. The good characters are perfect, and the bad characters are devils. The teacher is the hero and wins over all his detractors. Boys get the girls they are after. Still, the writing is amusing.

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## **Terris says**

This is an adorable story written in the dialect of country folk in the mid-1800's in southern Indiana. It's the tale of the young, local schoolmaster and the entanglement he incurs with the people of the community. It is really cute and often very funny. If you're looking for something light and entertaining, I highly recommend this one!

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## **Jeff Elliott says**

A quaint little story from the Hoosier heartland. I read it because it was referred to by a book I read a few weeks ago on Indiana history. It had some very good writing in parts (especially chapter 5 describing the walk home with the schoolmaster and Hannah) and then some that was hard to read due to Eggleston trying to transcribe the dialect (especially the preacher). I'm sure by today's standards this book would get panned but you need to keep in mind that it is nearly 150 years old and captured a moment in time. Nevertheless, I enjoyed the story. The quotes that I would list are too long to list here but trust me there is some really good writing in places and at some points has some Lemony Snicket style in addressing the reader: "You expect me to describe that walk...but I shall do no such thing."

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### **Steven says**

Sentimental and corny story of a good teacher and a bad doctor.

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### **Chrissy says**

Now this is a funny book, and quite an easy read. Ralph (the quiet, gentle main character) becomes school-master in a not-so-gentle town. Inspired by the determination of a scary dog Ralph dislikes, Ralph decides to face his challenges bull-dog style. Ralph's resolution comes in handy as he encounters misbehaving students, a band of thieves, false accusations, and other humorous adventures.

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### **Sue says**

I listened to the book Read by Bridget Gage:

This is a novel of 19th-century American rural life and the use of the local dialect in Indiana.

The action never drags for the life of a rural schoolteacher and the "big-boys" that harass him at school, his "bull-dog" determination to stay as their schoolmaster. I love the last chapter in the authors words: Eggleston announces his belief that readers whose taste is not perverted always want a story to "come out well," and the best and last line, that Shockey has given his spare time to making outcasts feel that God has not forgot.

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### **Mary says**

It's not the type of book I usually read but that being said, it was pretty good & enjoyable.

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### **Brandi says**

this is a must-read because it was one of the earliest novels to explore the american dialect. very good and used to be out of print.

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### **Data says**

Entertaining, with some subtle and not so subtle humor and life lessons. Very readable compared to some of its contemporary works.

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### **Jamison Shuck says**

It was Ok but it goes quickly. Although by the end of the story, I was sick and tired of reading about "Bosting" and God forgetting people. Although I didn't love the plot, I gave it three stars because I really liked the descriptions of life in rural 19th century Indiana. Its hard to believe that a community spelling bee was once the most popular thing to do in some places.

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### **Geriann Albers says**

A plotline that now seems trite and simplistic, this story was an easy, quick read and most interesting because of the details of rural life provided. 21 year old men still attended the local one-room schoolhouse? Adults challenged children in spelling contests? Children of paupers were forced in indentured servitude? Poor houses housed the mentally ill? I had no knowledge of any of this, and it provided interesting details of a past time. And, trite it may be, I still don't mind when good triumphs over evil and my favorite characters get their happily ever after.

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### **Noelle says**

This is a charming, funny book about a schoolmaster, Ralph, who goes to a backwoods town to teach, and ends up learning about himself and others. He also falls in love... and the journey is one worth reading about. I really enjoyed this book. :)

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### **Humphrey says**

This was an enjoyable read. Don't let scholarly footnotes mislead you: it's definitely more than mere popular romance. There is a good amount of Western humor to be had (the sort that we praise in Twain), and Eggleston repeatedly pushes against romance. He also creates a different balance between East and West - there is only one Easterner and she is teased and critiqued - than the one that would develop in regionalist fiction over the next decades.

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